

- [54] **IMMUNOASSAYS USING F(AB')₂ FRAGMENTS**
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- [21] **Appl. No.: 362,334**
- [22] **Filed: Mar. 26, 1982**

Related U.S. Application Data

- [63] Continuation of Ser. No. 5,261, Jan. 22, 1979, abandoned.

Foreign Application Priority Data

- Jan. 26, 1978 [GB] United Kingdom 3237/78
- [51] **Int. Cl.³ G01N 33/54**
- [52] **U.S. Cl. 436/512; 436/509; 436/526; 436/533; 436/534**
- [58] **Field of Search 23/230 B; 424/12; 436/512, 526, 534, 509**

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

Immunoassays for antigens or haptens are effected using, instead of an immunoglobulin antibody, the F(ab')₂ fragments thereof. In this way, interference from endogenous RF and Clq in the fluid under assay is avoided without the necessity of pre-treating the fluid to remove or inactivate the RF or Clq. The assays may be of various types including latex agglutination and competitive binding assays. A reagent for such use comprising F(ab')₂ fragments insolubilized on a water-insoluble substrate, especially a particulate substrate, is described.

13 Claims, No Drawings